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Woodchip production reaches new record

Tasmanian woodchip production continued to climb, reaching a new record level in the September quarter 2000, according to figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today.

Chipped and ground wood production reached 1,451,729 tonnes, an increase of 18.5 per cent compared to the same quarter in 1999. This is the highest recorded figure since the survey began 30 years ago, beating the previous record reached in the June 2000 quarter.

During the September quarter 2000 1,259,540 cubic metres of logs were delivered to mills for woodchipping, 19.2 per cent more than in the September quarter of 1999.

Log deliveries to sawmills and plywood mills for the September quarter 2000 totalled 239,892 cubic metres, a decrease of 4.8 per cent compared to the same period in 1999.

The overall sawmilling output of timber was 90,868 cubic metres, a 6.1 per cent decrease compared to the same quarter in 1999. Hardwood sawn timber production decreased by 7.1 per cent to 44,157 cubic metres and softwood timber production (46,711 cubic metres) also decreased 5.1 per cent from the same period in 1999.

The total volume of logs delivered to sawmills and woodchip mills in Tasmania during the September quarter 2000 was 1,499,432 cubic metres, an increase of 14.6 per cent on the previous September quarter. Logs from crown land accounted for 63 per cent of this total.

Further details can be found in **Tasmanian Statistical Indicators** (cat. no.1303.6), available from ABS bookshops. This publication also contains information addressing areas such as population, births, deaths, marriages, employment and unemployment, wages and prices, production statistics, building, finance, trade, retail sales, tourism and motor vehicle registrations.

The summary of the publication can be found on this site. If you wish to purchase a copy of this publication, contact the ABS Bookshop in your capital city.

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